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GENERAL AND COMPLETE DISARMAMENT

Canada, India, Mexico and Poland: revised draft resolution

Status of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject of chemical and bacteriological (biological) weapons, in particular resolution 47/39, of 30 November 1992, adopted without a vote, in which it commended the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction, 1/

Noting with satisfaction that since the Convention was opened for signature at a signing ceremony held in Paris from 13 to 15 January 1993, one hundred and sixty States have signed the Convention,

Determined to achieve the effective prohibition of the development, production, acquisition, transfer, stockpiling and use of chemical weapons and their destruction,

Convinced of the urgent necessity of universal adherence to the Convention so as to abolish an entire category of weapons of mass destruction, and thus eliminate the risk to mankind of renewed use of these inhumane weapons,

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1/ Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27 (A/47/27), appendix I.

Noting the ongoing work of the Preparatory Commission for the Organization on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons,

1. Welcomes the fact that sixty-five instruments of ratification have now been deposited and that the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction will therefore enter into force on ... April 1997;

2. Stresses the importance to the Convention that all possessors of chemical weapons, chemical weapons production facilities or chemical weapons development facilities should be among the original parties to the Convention and in this context, the importance of the United States of America and the Russian Federation, having declared possession of chemical weapons, being among the original States parties to the Convention;

3. Also stresses that this would promote the full realization and effective implementation of the Convention;

4. Calls upon all States that have not yet done so to sign and/or ratify the Convention without delay;

5. Notes that the Preparatory Commission for the Organization on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, at its fourteenth session (22-26 July 1996) entrusted the Chairman of the Commission, in close consultation with its member States, with the task of convening, as necessitated by circumstances in connection with the occurrence of the trigger point, a meeting of the Commission to provide appropriate guidance;

6. Urges the Preparatory Commission for the Organization on the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons to intensify efforts to complete its remaining work;

7. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its fifty-second session an item entitled "Implementation of the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production, Stockpiling and Use of Chemical Weapons and on Their Destruction".